

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

**DEPARTMENT OF  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS & ENERGY**

ONE SOUTH STATION

**BOSTON, MA 02110**  
**(617) 305-3500**

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COMMISSIONER

June 27, 2003

SENT BY E-Mail, and  
First Class U.S. Mail

Andrew J. Newman  
Rubin and Rudman, LLP  
50 Rowes Wharf  
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Blackstone Gas Company, D.T.E. 03-65

Dear Mr. Newman:

Enclosed are information requests by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy to Blackstone Gas Company in regard to the above-captioned matter. Please submit the Company's responses to the Department by 5:00 p.m., July 11, 2003.

Should you have any questions please contact me at (617) 305-3762. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jody Stiefel  
Hearing Officer

Enc.  
cc: Service List  
Mary Cottrell, Secretary

FIRST SET OF INFORMATION REQUESTS OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY TO  
BLACKSTONE GAS COMPANY

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Pursuant to 220 C.M.R. 1.06(6)(c), the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") hereby submits to Blackstone Gas Company ("Blackstone" or "Company") the following information request(s).

**INSTRUCTIONS**

The following instructions apply to this set of Information Requests and all subsequent Information Requests issued by the Department to the Company in this proceeding.

1. Each request should be answered in writing on a separate, three-hole punch page with a recitation of the request, a reference to the request number, the docket number of the case and the name of the person responsible for the answer.
2. Do not wait for all answers to be completed before supplying answers. Provide the answers as they are completed.
3. These requests shall be deemed continuing so as to require further supplemental responses if the Company or its witness receives or generates additional information within the scope of these requests between the time of the original response and the close of the record in this proceeding.
4. The term "provide complete and detailed documentation" means:  
  
Provide all data, assumptions and calculations relied upon. Provide the source of and basis for all data and assumptions employed. Include all studies, reports and planning documents from which data, estimates or assumptions were drawn and support for how the data or assumptions were used in developing the projections or estimates. Provide and explain all supporting work-papers.
5. The term "document" is used in its broadest sense and includes, without limitation, writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, phono-records, microfilm, microfiche, computer printouts, correspondence, handwritten notes, records or reports, bills, checks, articles from journals or other sources and other data compilations from which information can be obtained and all copies of such documents that bear notations or other markings that differentiate such copies from the original.
6. If any one of these requests is ambiguous, notify the Hearing Officer so that the request

may be clarified prior to the preparation of a written response.

7. Please serve a copy of the responses on Mary Cottrell, Secretary of the Department, and three copies to Jody M. Stiefel, Hearing Officer.

- DTE 1-1 Refer to the Company's Petition at 2, § 7. Please provide a detailed net plant test for the \$600,000 loan included in the Company's petition as of December 31, 2002, or a later date if available, specifying separately the values of the utility plant in service, the accumulated depreciation reserve, and the total amount of securities and debt. In reporting this information, comply with the following requirements:
- (a) The utility plant in service should include only capitalizable utility plant effectively used for the Company's provision of service to its customers and should exclude any unfinished plant;
  - (b) Securities and debt should be explained and itemized.
  - (c) The net plant test should be computed both before and after the proposed new financing.
- DTE 1-2 Refer to the Company's Petition at Exhibit 2. Will the refinancing which is currently being requested be used in part to pay off the Company's long-term debt as of December 31, 2002 in the amount of \$287,485?
- DTE 1-3 Refer to the Company's Petition at 2, § 6. Please submit in detail the total short-term debt of the Company for the most current date readily available. Also, indicate what portion of this debt, if any, will be paid off through the proposed refinancing.
- DTE 1-4 Please provide the Company's balance sheet based on the most recently available data.
- DTE 1-5 Refer to the Company's Petition at 2, § 4. Please provide the name of the other commercial lender contacted by the Company in connection with the proposed loan.